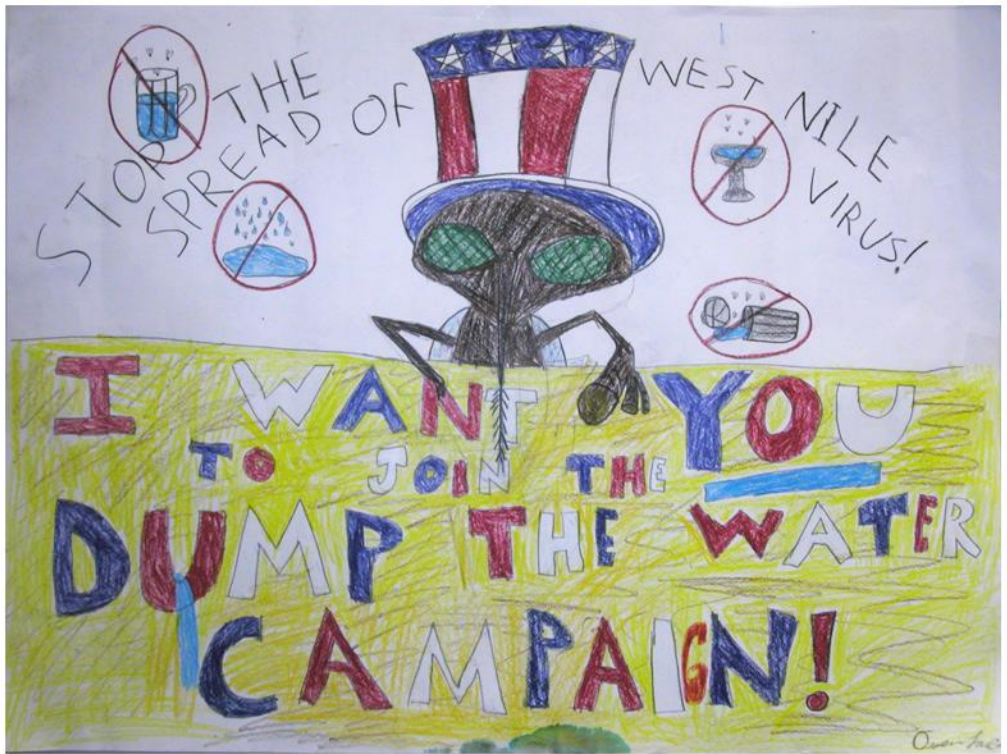


# Suffolk County Department of Health Services

**Reminds You to Dump the Water!**



**Annual Dump the Water Campaign, 2004  
Winning Poster By:**

**Owen Laub, 5th grade  
Southampton Intermediate School  
Southampton Union Free School District**

West Nile Virus is transmitted to humans by the bite of an infected mosquito. It is important to reduce mosquito breeding areas around your home and property to prevent the transmission of West Nile Virus to people. After each rainfall, remember to eliminate standing water.

- Dispose of tin cans, plastic containers, ceramic pots or similar water-holding containers.
- Remove all discarded tires on your property. Used tires have become the most important source of mosquito breeding in the nation.
- Drill holes in the bottoms of recycling containers that are kept outdoors.
- Make sure roof gutters drain properly, and clean clogged gutters in the spring and fall.
- Turn over plastic wading pools and wheelbarrows when not in use.
- Change the water in birdbaths.
- Clean vegetation and debris from edges of ponds.
- Clean and chlorinate swimming pools, outdoor saunas and hot tubs.
- Drain water from pool covers.
- Use landscaping to eliminate standing water that collects on your property.
- Check your property for trash. Even a bottle cap can become a breeding ground for mosquitoes.

In addition to reducing potential breeding sites on your own property, you can encourage your neighbors, local businesses and municipal agencies to do so as well. You can also work with local service, labor, religious and fraternal organizations to promote community-wide clean-up drives.

For more information, visit the Suffolk County  
Department of Health's web site at:

[www.suffolkcountyny.gov/health](http://www.suffolkcountyny.gov/health)

For medical questions contact the Department's  
Division of Public Health by calling (631) 853-3055.

You may also wish to view the New York State  
Department of Health's web site at:

[www.health.state.ny.us](http://www.health.state.ny.us)

Or call the New York State Health  
Department's Environmental Health  
INFOLINE at 1-800-458-1158.

To report mosquito problems, you may contact the  
Suffolk County Department of Public Works, Division  
of Vector Control by calling (631) 852-4270.

In 2000, the Suffolk County Legislature adopted a  
local law, which created the annual

***Dump the Water Campaign.***

Each January, the members of the County Legislature  
will invite elementary level students in their districts to  
participate in a poster contest requiring students to  
demonstrate how to best

***Dump The Water.***

The winning poster is used by the Suffolk County  
Department of Health Services as part of their West  
Nile Virus message each year.

SUFFOLK COUNTY  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES



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